

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-39. (Cancelled)

40. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of making a modified pigment~~ comprising:  
~~the step of~~ reacting a pigment having attached a first chemical group with a second chemical group to form a pigment having attached a third chemical group; and  
reacting the pigment having attached the third chemical group with an acylating agent,  
wherein

i) the second chemical group reacts with the first chemical group to form the third chemical group, wherein said first chemical group comprises an organic group which comprises at least one electrophile and said second chemical group comprises at least one nucleophile, or vice versa, and the nucleophile reacts with the electrophile,

ii) said pigment having attached a first chemical group is prepared by reacting a diazonium salt having the first chemical group with at least one type of pigment to form said pigment having attached a first chemical group, ~~and~~

iii) ~~wherein~~ the first chemical group, the second chemical group, and the third chemical group each comprises at least one organic group selected from the group consisting of: acyl azides, isocyanates, ketones, aldehydes, anhydrides, amides, imides, imines,  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketones and aldehydes, alkyl halides, epoxides, alkyl sulfates, amines, hydrazines, thiols, hydrazides, oximes, carbanions, and salts thereof, and

iv.) the acylating agent is selected from the group consisting of a carboxylic acid, a derivative of a carboxylic acid and an anhydride of a carboxylic acid.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40, wherein the first chemical group comprises an alkylsulfate group.
42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40, wherein the first chemical group comprises a (2-sulfatoethyl)-sulphone group.
43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein the first chemical group is phenyl-(2-sulfatoethyl)-sulphone.
44. (Previously presented) The method of claim 40, wherein said second chemical group comprises a polymer.
45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of: a polyamine, a polyalkylene oxide, a polyol, a polyacrylate, and salts thereof.
46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the polymer is a polyamine.
47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the polymer is polyethyleneimine.
48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein said pigment is carbon black.
49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40, wherein said pigment comprises a blue pigment, black pigment, brown pigment, cyan pigment, green pigment, white pigment, violet pigment, magenta pigment, red pigment, yellow pigment, or mixtures thereof.

50-55. (Cancelled).

56. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein the acylating agent comprises a carboxylic acid.

57. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein the acylating agent comprises a derivative of a carboxylic acid.

58. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein the acylating agent comprises an anhydride of a carboxylic acid.

59. (New) A method, comprising:

reacting a pigment having attached a first chemical group with a second chemical group to form a pigment having attached a third chemical group; and

reacting the pigment having attached the third chemical group with an acylating agent selected from the group consisting of a carboxylic acid, a derivative of a carboxylic acid and an anhydride of a carboxylic acid.

60. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the acylating agent comprises a carboxylic acid.

61. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the acylating agent comprises a derivative of a carboxylic acid.

62. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the acylating agent comprises an anhydride of a carboxylic acid.

63. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the first chemical group comprises an alkylsulfate group.

64. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the first chemical group comprises a (2-sulfatoethyl)-sulphone group.

65. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the first chemical group is phenyl-(2-sulfatoethyl)-sulphone.

66. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein said second chemical group comprises a polymer.

67. (New) The method of claim 66, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of: a polyamine, a polyalkylene oxide, a polyol, a polyacrylate, and salts thereof.

68. (New) The method of claim 66, wherein the polymer is a polyamine.

69. (New) The method of claim 66, wherein the polymer is polyethyleneimine.

70. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein said pigment is carbon black.

71. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein said pigment comprises a blue pigment, black pigment, brown pigment, cyan pigment, green pigment, white pigment, violet pigment, magenta pigment, red pigment, yellow pigment, or mixtures thereof.